

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of :  
Bruce SMITH :  
Serial No.: : Group Art Unit:  
Filed: February 27, 2002 : Examiner:  
For: AN OPTICAL PROXIMITY CORRECTION METHOD UTILIZING GRAY BARS AS  
SUB-RESOLUTION ASSIST FEATURES

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION" insert the following:

**--RELATED APPLICATION**

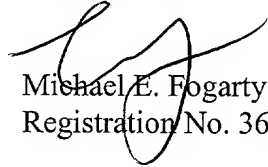
This application claims priority from United States Provisional Patent Application No. 60/271,880, filed on February 27, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.--

## REMARKS

The above-referenced application is amended to insert the priority information into the specification. Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification. Entry of this Preliminary Amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION OF THE CHANGES

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, before "FIELD OF THE INVENTION" the following has been inserted:

--RELATED APPLICATION

This application claims priority from United States Provisional Patent Application No. 60/271,880, filed on February 27, 2001, the entire disclosure of which is hereby incorporated by reference herein.--

60/271,880